

was seen on the site visit; its hostplant is sweetleaf (*Symplocos tinctoria*), which is widespread in the bay.

PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT: These bays are in private ownership and have no protection. Kerrimur Bay, by itself, is of Regional significance and is the primary protection interest. Carnoustie Bay is of County significance, as a large bay – roughly 0.5 x 0.3 miles in size – that contains pocosin vegetation.

Protection is urgently needed, particularly of Kerrimur Bay, as over the next decade or two the bay likely will become a loblolly pine forest. Cutting of the pines and other woody vegetation is critical to save Kerrimur Bay. Measures to raise the water table or otherwise alter the hydrology to make the bay wetter seem to be impractical. Also, there are a few ATV trails running through the bay, including the open portion with the rare plants. As long as vehicle users stay to the existing trails, there may be few impacts; however, it is expected that the ATVs will be driven all over the bay at some point, and thus efforts should be made to restrict these vehicles from the bay.

The largest bay appears to be somewhat fire-adapted and could use burning. It likely has had selective timber harvest, explaining the somewhat open canopy. Because Carnoustie Bay is surrounded by development on the east, burning of it might be difficult; however, at the present time there are no residences to the south and west – only various fields and woodlots.

NATURAL COMMUNITIES: Cypress Savanna (Depression Meadow variant) [probably a former Small Depression Pond], Coastal Plain Depression Swamp

RARE PLANTS: small-headed marsh elder (*Iva microcephala*), awned meadow-beauty (*Rhexia aristosa*); Watch List – white doll’s-daisy (*Boltonia asteroides*)

RARE ANIMALS: King’s hairstreak (*Satyrium kingi*)

REFERENCES:

- LeGrand, H. 2004. Site report: Chorus Bay and Scotch Meadows Bay/Pinewoods. N.C. Natural Heritage Program, Office of Conservation and Community Affairs, DENR, Raleigh.
- Nifong, T.D. 1982. The “Clay Subsoil” Carolina Bays of North Carolina. The Nature Conservancy.